

Some face creams can poison children



“My neighbor was using a Mexican face cream to remove dark spots. She didn’t know it had mercury in it. Because she held her son a lot, he was poisoned. He spent two weeks in the hospital.”

- Maria R.

Mercury is a poison. You can spread it from your hands all over your home. It gets into people’s bodies. It is especially bad for children and pregnant women.

The creams on the next page have mercury in them. They are used to get rid of wrinkles, age spots, freckles, acne, or other blemishes.

Do not use:

- Creams with labels in Spanish only (English and Spanish is safer)
- Creams in containers without labels or with homemade labels
- Any cream on this list: <https://tinyurl.com/yy7qgg7s>.

This is an example of a Pond’s Rejuveness Cream that does not have mercury in it. It was purchased at Walgreens in California. It was made in Mexico. The label is in English and Spanish. It had a foil safety seal when it was purchased.



If you use creams like the ones shown on the next page:



STOP using the creams



VISIT your doctor and bring this leaflet and your creams



Get a blood and urine **TEST** for mercury

For free medical advice, call Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222

If you have a cream shown on the next page, put it in a sealed bag and contact (510) 981-4354 or AskEHIB@cdph.ca.gov

California Department of Public Health

Environmental Health Investigations Branch, Healthy Homes and Communities Program



Beware! These Creams Have Mercury in Them: Do Not Use!

These creams were found in small stores or swap meets or were sold by individuals or on the internet. Buy spot-removing, anti-wrinkle creams from bigger, well-known chain stores instead.

Creams with Mercury—with Labels Only in Spanish



Creams with Mercury—Well-Known Creams but Sold Without a Safety Seal

When sold by an individual or at a swap meet, someone may have opened the cream and added mercury before reselling



Creams with Mercury—No Label or Homemade Label

